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**ROBERT CHESTER NAMED REGIONAL DIRECTOR
OF NLRB'S MINNEAPOLIS, MN REGIONAL OFFICE**

Robert W. Chester has been appointed Regional Director of the National Labor Relations Board's Regional Office in Minneapolis, MN (Region 18) succeeding Ronald M. Sharp who retired in May 2005.

A career NLRB employee, Mr. Chester has been serving since 2001 as Assistant to the Regional Director in Region 18. In his new position, Mr. Chester will supervise the handling of NLRB cases arising in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, 90 counties in Iowa and 22 counties in Wisconsin.

The NLRB administers and enforces the National Labor Relations Act. It conducts secret-ballot elections to determine whether employees desire union representation and investigates and remedies unfair labor practices.

In a statement announcing the appointment, NLRB Chairman Robert J. Battista and General Counsel Ronald Meisburg said:

During his years of exemplary service with the Agency, Bob Chester has acquired a well-deserved reputation as a committed and highly motivated leader. His thoughtful demeanor, industriousness and organizational skills will serve him well as he continues the tradition of excellence in the Minneapolis Regional Office.

A native of Washington, PA, Mr. Chester served in the U.S. Army from 1969-1971. He received his B.A. degree from Towson University in Baltimore, MD in 1974 and his M.B.A. degree in 1982 from Bradley University in Peoria, IL. Mr. Chester started his government career in Philadelphia, PA with the U.S. Navy Aviation Supply Office before transferring to the NLRB. He began his NLRB career in 1976 as a Field Examiner in the then Subregion 38 in Peoria, IL. He transferred to the Pittsburgh, PA Regional Office (Region 6) in 1985, and he was promoted to Supervisory Field Examiner in that office in 1998. Mr. Chester was promoted to Assistant to the Regional Director in Region 18 in 2001.

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